

Reproductive Justice

Policy for the People

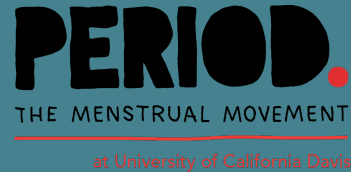
May 6, 2020

Slides and supporting documents: <https://bit.ly/PFTP-RJ-docs>

Policy for the People Series

- Provide policy, systems-change perspective for service providers and volunteer groups
- Empower fellow students, who often carry lived experiences or work closely with those that do, to share their knowledge and advocate for long-term change
- Provide tools needed to engage in policy-focused, systemic changes within the University

Brought to you by:



Hello!



Audin Leung



Lauren Low



Annie Wang

Let's meet who is here today

- Name
- Pronouns
- Major
- Year
- How you came to this workshop





Go to Pollev.com/nicejuice859

or

Text [NICEJUICE 859](https://NICEJUICE859) to 22333

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📱 Text **NICEJUICE859** to **22333** once to join

**Snacking-in-place: what are your top 3 snacks while sheltering in place?
(you can reply with emoji!)**



What are we up to today?

1. Define reproductive justice
2. State and federal policy examples
3. Call to action you can do today!

🗨️ When poll is active, respond at Pollev.com/nicejuice859

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What do you think is or how do you define "reproductive justice"?



Defining Reproductive Justice

“The human right to maintain personal bodily autonomy, have children, not have children, and parent the children we have in safe and sustainable communities.”
- SisterSong Women of Color Reproductive Justice Collective

Reproductive Justice is...

- A human right
- About access, not (just) choice
- Not just abortion, also includes contraception, comprehensive sex education, STI prevention and care, alternative birth options, adequate prenatal and pregnancy care, domestic violence assistance, adequate wages to support our families, safe homes, and so much more



Period Poverty:

“...the inadequate access to menstrual hygiene tools and educations, including but not limited to sanitary products, washing facilities, and waste management.”

- American Medical Women's Association

Good menstrual hygiene management (MHM) requires the following:



Additional systemic factors that impact good menstrual hygiene management (MHM):



Impact on Young Menstruators

- Globally, 23 million students drop out due to lack of access to menstrual healthcare.
- In the US...
 - 1 in 4 miss class due to lack of access to menstrual products
 - 1 in 5 struggle to afford menstrual products
 - 42% of menstruators say that they have experienced period shaming
 - 1 in 10 say the shaming occurred in the classroom

“Spot On” 2014 Report by Dasra NGO

“State of the Period” White Paper Commissioned by PERIOD and THINX

Experiences

- "I wrapped a sock around my underwear just to stop the bleeding, because I didn't want to get shouted at. And I wrapped a whole tissue roll around my underwear, just to keep my underwear dry until I got home. I once Sellotaped tissue to my underwear. I didn't know what else to do.
- "I kept this secret up until I was 14 years old and then I started asking for help.
- "I thought it was only happening to me... so I was scared and I wanted to stay at home."



The Menstrual Movement

- AB31 The “Tampon Tax”
- AB2003 - Community college: restrooms: feminine hygiene products.
- Join the movement!
 - #FreeThePeriodCA
 - Start the conversation

Abortion Access- Past Topics

- State level restrictions
- Supreme court threats to Roe v Wade
 - Hyde Amendment
 - Domestic Gag Rule

Global Gag Rule

- Blocks foreign organizations who provide, refer to, mention, or advocate for abortions from receiving federal financial aid
- First implemented by Reagan and stood from 1984-1993
- Forces US pro-life evangelical values onto developing countries

Global Gag Rule Impact

- US = largest funder of public health worldwide
- Cuts aid for reproductive health orgs (ie Planned Parenthood International)
- Impacts water sanitation, malaria prevention, HIV/AIDS treatment, etc
- Stiffles abortion activism abroad

Key Takeaways

A small, vocal conservative minority in the US are so powerful that they can control bodies both here and abroad

New form of colonialism - US uses finances to influence values and shape development abroad

Reproductive healthcare policy is a part of essential care and directly impacts basic needs provisions

Title IX Rollback

- **Title IX**- Civil rights law that prohibits discrimination based on gender in education
 - Expanded to include sexual harassment protections
- Previous attacks- Devos got rid of guidance for trans students/disabled students
- New rules being pushed through during pandemic
 - Higher standard of evidence
 - Allows survivors to be cross-examined
 - Harder to sue schools for failing to handle harassment/assault
 - Higher bar for what constitutes harassment
 - Lessens liability (off campus, study abroad, online exemptions)
 - Lifts investigation time limit
 - Allows mediation instead of investigation

Key Takeaways

The administration is using the crisis as a guise to pass controversial objectives

Despite prominence of “Me Too” movement, survivors still aren’t taken seriously

Sexual harassment and assault protections for college students are under attack

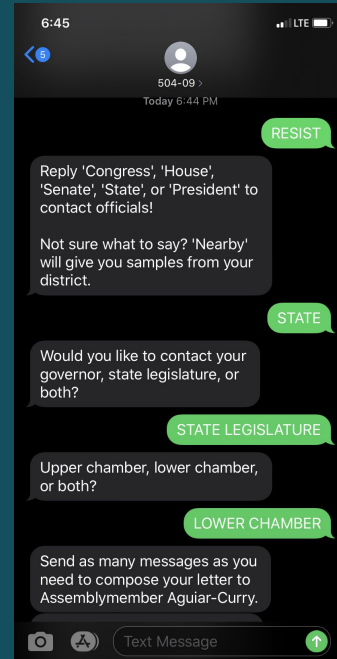
Take Action!

AB732: Reproductive Dignity for Incarcerated People

- Codifies into law existing regulations for state prisons, extends them to county jails
- Protections for incarcerated pregnant people, including:
 - Pregnancy tests, postpartum exams
 - Prenatal care, vitamins, treatment for infectious diseases
 - Lower bunks and tiered housing
 - Prohibits solitary confinement and tasering
 - Free menstrual products

Take Action! (resist.bot)

AB732: Reproductive Dignity for Incarcerated People



Message Template (from IGNITE)

AB732 ensures the reproductive dignity of incarcerated people by requiring jails and prisons to provide reproductive health care and accommodations, and bans the solitary confinement or tasing of pregnant and postpartum individuals.

This bill will provide pregnant inmates with prenatal vitamins, care that includes treatment for infectious diseases, & access to a doula; assign pregnant inmates to lower bunk beds; allow a pregnant inmate to have a support person present during childbirth; provide inmates with postpartum examinations; prohibit the shackling of pregnant inmates who are hospitalized for prolonged periods of time or are experiencing frequent labor contractions; and prohibit solitary confinement of pregnant inmates.

California is failing to uphold the dignity and humanity of incarcerated pregnant people by not providing timely access to standard reproductive care. It's time to lift the bars off reproductive healthcare and pass AB732.

Additional Resource: bit.ly/AB732text

Thank you for coming! Let's stay in touch.



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